

1. A folding bed, comprising:

a frame;

a cylindrical positioning shaft that is fixedly connected to said frame, said frame being rotatable about the axis of said positioning shaft to either a raised storage position or a lowered functional position whereby the axis of said positioning shaft is the axis of rotation of said frame; and

means for rotating said frame about said axis of rotation.

2. The folding bed of claim 1 wherein said means comprises:

a motor; and

coupling means for coupling the shaft of said motor to said positioning shaft.

3. The folding bed of claim 2 wherein said coupling means comprises:

a sprocket that is fixedly mounted on said motor shaft;

a sprocket that is fixedly mounted on said positioning shaft;

and

a chain loop that engages said sprockets.

4. The folding bed of claim 3 wherein said sprocket mounted on said motor shaft has a smaller diameter than said sprocket mounted on said positioning shaft.

5. The ~~fold~~ing bed of claim 2, wherein said coupling means comprises:

a gear that is fixedly mounted on said positioning shaft; and  
a gear that is fixedly mounted on said motor shaft that engages said positioning shaft gear.

6. The folding bed of claim 5 wherein said motor shaft gear is a worm gear.

7. The folding bed of claim 1, additionally comprising:  
a stationary member; and  
a pillow block connected to said stationary member, said positioning shaft being journalled within said pillow block.

8. The bed of claim 7, additionally comprising a coil spring having one end connected to said frame and the other end connected to said stationary member, said spring being relaxed when said frame is in said raised position and in tension when said frame is in said lowered position.

9. The folding bed of claim 1 wherein said means comprises:

a motor;

a threaded shaft;

means for coupling an end of said threaded shaft to the shaft  
5 of said motor, said motor and said coupling means being included in  
a power assembly that rotatable about an axis that is displaced  
from the axis of rotation of said frame;

an internally threaded sheath having an end connected to said  
frame at a datum location, said threaded shaft engaging threads of  
10 said sheath.

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10. The bed of claim 9, additionally comprising a coil spring  
having one end connected to said frame and the other end connected  
to said stationary member, said spring being relaxed when said  
frame is in said raised position and in tension when said frame is  
5 in said lowered position.

*add  
a.*